

Dear Ms. Funaro,

I am writing to express my concern about Iowa's rush to further privatize Medicaid services. I am a clinical social worker providing psychosocial therapy to children and adults; a significant number of my clients have Medicaid as their only or secondary insurance. IHH programs to provide case management and other services to individuals with serious mental illnesses from a more holistic perspective are still fairly new in many Iowa counties; I am concerned that changes in Medicaid providers may weaken these programs. It may be that having multiple private insurers will turn out to be more efficacious and cost-effective than the current system, but I believe that more study is needed before making such a significant change in service provision.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Lifka, EdD, LISW